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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Confirmation No.: 7514  
Takaei SASAKI et al Group Art Unit: 1746  
Serial No.: 10/712,032 Examiner: Michail Kornakov  
Filed: November 14, 2003 Attorney Docket No.: 101136-00101

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DRY-ETCHING HALF-TONE PHASE-SHIFT FILMS, HALF-TONE PHASE-SHIFT PHOTOMASKS AND METHOD FOR THE PREPARATION THEREOF, AND SEMICONDUCTOR CIRCUITS AND METHOD FOR THE FABRICATION THEREOF

**RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: June 21 2005

Sir:

This paper is in reply to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated June 14, 2005.